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Letter dated 27 December 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter dated 21 December 2006, which I received from the Secretary-General and High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, transmitting the eighth report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), covering the period from 1 September to 30 November 2006.

I would be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Annex

Letter dated 21 December 2006 from the Secretary-General and High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), I attach the eighth three-monthly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR). The report covers the period from 1 September to 30 November 2006. I would be grateful if you would transmit this report to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Javier **Solana**

Enclosure

Report by the Secretary-General and High Representative of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR)

I. Introduction

1. This report covers the period 1 September to 30 November 2006.

2. The Security Council, by its resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union (EU), report to the Council on the activity of EUFOR, through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the eighth such report to the Council.

II. Political background

3. During this reporting period, the general security situation has remained stable. Elections held on 1 October were conducted according to international standards. The Republika Srpska government was established on 30 November with Milorad Dodik appointed as the Prime Minister. The formation of a State Government is not expected until the end of the year and the most optimistic assessment for the establishment of the Federation government is the end of January 2007.

4. The technical talks on a stabilization and association agreement have progressed but requirements for signing of the agreement have not yet been fulfilled, police reform being the main obstacle. Progress continues to be made on proposals for a police reform implementation plan, as required by the October 2005 political agreement. The Directorate for Implementation of police reform is expected to issue a report around 20 December, following which the State and entity governments and parliaments will need to adopt it.

III. EUFOR[1] activities

5. During the reporting period, EUFOR continued to conduct operations in line with its mandate; providing deterrence, ensuring continued compliance in relation to the responsibilities specified in the General Framework Agreement for Peace, annexes 1-A and 2, and contributing to a safe and secure environment.

6. The main effort of EUFOR has been to conduct and support operations in cooperation with local authorities and law enforcement agencies. Particular focus has been given to weapons collection activities, including the development of the

[1] EUFOR currently comprises around 5,700 troops from Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Switzerland and Turkey. Cyprus and Malta also contribute to the common costs of this operation.

local authorities' capability to plan and execute such operations. During the reporting period these operations have resulted in the discovery or surrender of 124 small arms, 89,700 rounds of ammunition, 681 hand grenades, 153 mines, 49 kg of explosives and over 19,000 other items (including mortars, rockets and hand-made ordnance). EUFOR has also started an information campaign on weapons collection activities and introduced a toll-free telephone line to allow people to provide anonymous information on illegal weapons.

7. EUFOR was available to provide support to the local law enforcement agencies during the elections on 1 October, but no assistance was requested or required. The situation remained calm and stable throughout the election period.

8. The last regular, scheduled session of the Joint Military Commission, established under Annex 1-A of the Dayton/Paris peace accords, was chaired by the EUFOR commander on 13 September. Inspection and accounting for the contents of weapons and ammunition storage sites and similar tasks have been handed over to the reformed Ministry of Defence, with EUFOR retaining a monitoring role.

9. EUFOR continues to play a key part in the overall EU approach in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working particularly closely with the EU Special Representative and the EU police mission. EUFOR also continues to cooperate closely with NATO headquarters, Sarajevo.

IV. Outlook

10. The EUFOR commander, Major General Gian Marco Chiarini (Italy), hands over command of EUFOR to Rear Admiral Hans-Jochen Witthauer (Germany) on 5 December 2006.